

Uniformed Services University

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Media Advisory

AMMA President addresses USU during National Minority Health Month celebration

Bethesda, Md. – Randall W. Maxey, M.D., Ph.D., president of the Alliance of Minority Medical Associations (AMMA) and former President of the National Medical Association (NMA) will be the keynote speaker at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Center for Health Disparities Research and Education National Minority Health Month celebration on Wednesday, April 12.

Dr. Maxey will address members of USU on "Improving the Quality of Healthcare for All Americans: Reducing Health Disparities," in the university's cafeteria from 9 to 10 a.m.

Dr. Maxey, a nephrologist who resides in Los Angeles, is a national leader in the area of health care disparities. He was elected as the 104th president of the NMA for 2003. Dr. Maxey received his bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the University of Cincinnati, and M.D. and Ph.D. in cardiovascular pharmacology from Howard University. He has held academic positions at Howard University, the Charles R. Drew University, Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, and Guam Memorial Hospital.

Richard Tanenbaum, Ph.D., principal investigator and director, Administrative Core of the Center, has led efforts for the past three years to eliminate health disparities among vulnerable populations. This year's program is being sponsored by the Center's Community Outreach and Information Dissemination Core. The core aims to actively involve community partners in research, training opportunities, and educational offerings to maximize the understanding and reduction of health disparities in minority populations.

"This program is one of the programs offered during the month of April to raise awareness and provide information about health disparities to improve health literacy among African Americans, Hispanics, military members and their families," said Gloria C. Ramsey, J.D., R.N., director of the Community Outreach and Information Dissemination Core.

USU (<u>USU website</u>) was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. It has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.

For more information about the Center for Health Disparities e-mail: gramsey@usuhs.mil. Media interested in attending the program, contact anicholson@usuhs.mil or call (301) 295-9702.